

**SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN
(PUBLIC PARTICIPATION)**

April 19, 2005

7:00 PM

Mayor Baines called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Roy, Gatsas, Guinta, Sysyn, Osborne, Porter, O’Neil, Lopez, Shea, DeVries, Garrity, Smith, Thibault, and Forest

Mayor Baines advised that the purpose of the special meeting is to give residents of Manchester the opportunity to address the Board on items of concern affecting the community; that each person will be given only one opportunity to speak; that comments shall be limited to two minutes to allow all participants the opportunity to speak and any comments must be directed to the Chair.

Mayor Baines requested that any resident wishing to speak come forward to the nearest microphone, clearly state their name and address when recognized, and give their comments.

Jeff Kassel, 22 Appleton Street, Manchester stated:

I heard a rumor. I have been away. I have been out of the country for about five weeks and I heard a rumor that the Mayor was considering vetoing the new plan to give MCTV a studio where people could actually...the community members could actually get into a studio at a time that was convenient for them, people work, not a time that is convenience for the School Department where the studio is now. Of course, a new MCTV studio would allow us to do live debates, live forums and most importantly live radio. That is kind of a lost art. We don’t have public information radio available for people in Manchester so they can know that is going on. I hope this rumor that I heard is not true, Mr. Mayor. I hope you will not veto a very, very small amount of money to allow the people of this City to have a voice on TV and soon on radio. Maybe you could address it. I would love to hear what you have to say.

Mayor Baines responded this is a public forum and there is no discussion.

Mr. Kassel replied that is what is actually wrong with the public forums here at the Aldermanic Chamber. We get to talk for three minutes...

Mayor Baines interjected two.

Mr. Kassel stated two minutes, thank you, and nobody gets to respond so there is no give and take and no discussion. It is simply talking to your own echo. It is not satisfactory. I would urge the Aldermen to vote unanimously to allow that studio to go forward. My TV show is on tomorrow night. There is going to be a clip for dating over 50 if any of you haven't seen it. Also, the new Jeff Kassel, "Let's Get Small" with Steve Vaillancourt. I am sure you will enjoy it if you watch it.

There being no one else present wishing to speak, on motion of Alderman DeVries, duly seconded by Alderman Garrity it was voted to take all comments under advisement and further to receive and file any written documentation presented.

This being a special meeting of the Board, no further business can be presented and on motion of Alderman Thibault, duly seconded by Alderman Sysyn it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

City Clerk